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TOP SECRET

THE SECRETARY OF DEFENSE
WASHINGTON

5 AUG 1965

Honorable Charles L. Schultze
Director
Bureau of the Budget
Washington, D. C. 20503

Dear Charlie:

My staff has met with representatives of the Central Intelligence Agency on the questions raised in your letter of 8 July 1965 — concerning requirements and possible duplication of effort in the area of Over-the-Horizon radar programs.

The primary conclusion reached in this meeting was that the Earthling II portion of the Checkrote OTH radar system should be implemented as soon as possible because of the urgent intelligence priority of the Chinese Missile Range and the potential of this system to acquire such intelligence within a relatively short time and at a minimal cost.

We further agreed that, as stated in your letter, a coordinated inter-agency review of our intelligence collection requirements and facilities targeted at aircraft and missile activities is necessary with particular emphasis on the various high frequency back scatter and forward scatter radar programs.

This problem is complicated by the fact that Over-the-Horizon (OTH) radars can have major non-intelligence functions, such as an early warning role against aircraft and missiles (both ICBM and SLBM), and tactical control of aircraft operating over large geographical areas. This latter capability could be particularly useful in Communist China and Southeast Asia areas where the lack of suitable land based sites limits the usefulness of conventional line-of-sight microwave radars.

I believe that we must address this specific problem on three levels:

(1) Achieve an effective interface between the Department of Defense and the Central Intelligence Agency sponsored programs as these exist today and for those that are envisioned in the future.

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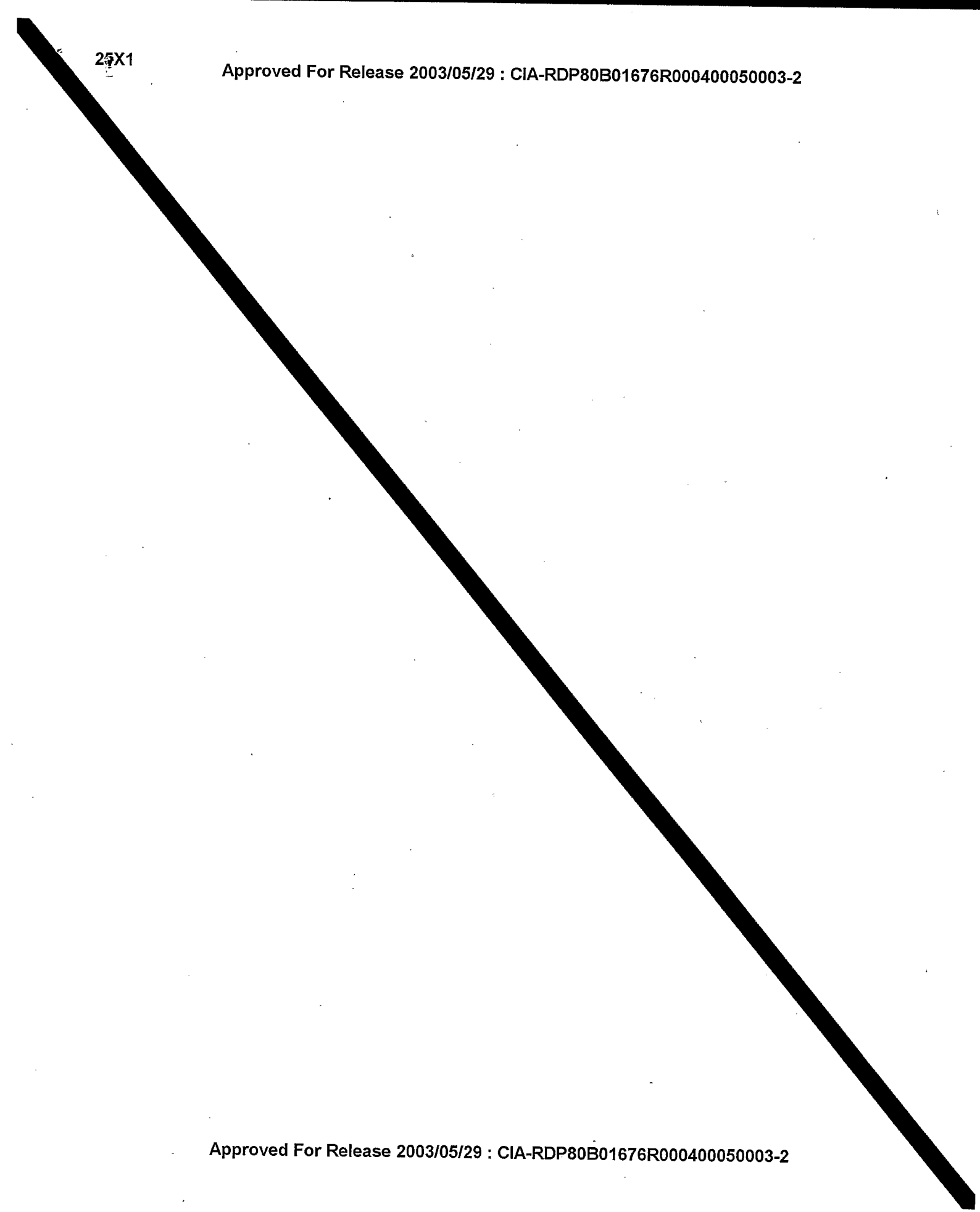

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MEMORANDUM FOR: Executive Director

DCI has not seen.

W. Elder

9 Aug 65
(DATE)

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